GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:342
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2001
TRANSFER OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT
JASWANT SINGH YADAV

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to shift Disaster Management from the Ministry of Agriculture to the Ministry of Home Affairs ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a) & (b): The Group of Ministers (GoM) on Internal Security has, inter alia, recommended that it is imperative that appropriate procedures, structures, etc., are expeditiously put in place to cope up with natural calamities like cyclones, floods, earthquakes, etc. The GoM has also recommended that since disaster management requires dealing with one or more local authorities and often requires intervention of the Central Police Organisations, the law and order machinery, etc., it may be appropriate to transfer this subject from the Ministry of Agriculture to the Ministry of Home Affairs, with the exception of Drought Relief and Famine, which should continue to be handled by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The modalities of transfer of the work relating to disaster management, except drought relief and famine, from the Ministry of Agriculture to the Ministry of Home Affairs are being worked out.